



AMENDMENT

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Technology Center 2600

Unmarked Version

In the claims:

1. (Thrice Amended) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing modules each having a plurality of tracks and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling the tracks of the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising:
- generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first display portion including a plurality of control boxes each corresponding to and controlling one track of the plurality of audio processing modules, wherein the plurality of control boxes corresponding to the plurality of tracks of a first audio processing module of the plurality of audio processing modules may be collapsed into a single first audio processing module control box corresponding to and controlling simultaneously all of the plurality of tracks corresponding to the first audio processing module; and
- generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the second display portion including a central control mechanism for substantially simultaneously controlling all of the tracks of the plurality of audio processing modules.

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- C2 would.
2. (Twice Amended) The method of claim 1 further including:
selecting one of the plurality of control boxes;
transmitting a control command associated with the selected control box from the computer system to an audio processing module having the corresponding track; and
performing a function assigned to the control command by the audio processing module.

3. The method of claim 1 further including the:
selecting a record button of a specific track;
transmitting a record command from the computer system to an audio processing module having the specific track; and
causing the specific track to record an audio sound by the audio processing module.

4. The method of claim 1 further including:
selecting the central control mechanism;
transmitting a global control command associated with the central control mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and
in each audio processing module, performing a function assigned to the global control command by the audio processing module.

5. The method of claim 1 wherein generating a second display portion includes a global play command for controlling all of the tracks of the audio processing modules.
6. The method of claim 5 further including:
selecting the global play command;
transmitting the global play command from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and
in each audio processing module, causing all the tracks to each play an audio sound by the audio processing module.
7. The method of claim 1 wherein generating a second display portion includes a global stop command for controlling one or more of the tracks of the audio processing modules.
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8. (Thrice Amended) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing modules each having [one or more] a plurality of input/output ("I/O") channels and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling the plurality of I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising:
generating a first display portion, the first display portion including a plurality of control boxes each controlling a corresponding I/O channel of the plurality of audio processing modules, wherein the

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plurality of control boxes corresponding to the plurality of I/O channels of a first audio processing module of the plurality of audio processing modules may be collapsed into a single first audio processing module I/O control box corresponding to and controlling simultaneously all of the plurality of I/O channels corresponding to the first audio processing module;

displaying the first display portion by the processor on the display for control by a user;

selecting a control command on a specified control box by the user;

transmitting the control command from the computer system to the audio processing module having the I/O channel corresponding to the specified control box; and

performing a task assigned to the control command by the audio processing module with respect to the I/O channel.

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9. (Thrice Amended) In a player/recorder system having a plurality of audio processing modules each having a plurality of input/output ("I/O") channels and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling all of the [one or more] plurality of I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules, the method comprising:

generating a display portion, the display portion including a central control mechanism to control all of the plurality of I/O channels of the plurality of audio processing modules;
displaying the display portion by the processor on the display for control by a user;
selecting the central control mechanism;
transmitting a global control command associated with the central control mechanism from the computer system to the plurality of audio processing modules; and
in each audio processing module, causing all the I/O channels to perform a task assigned to the global control command.

10. (Thrice Amended) An apparatus for controlling a plurality of audio processing modules having a plurality of tracks in a player/recorder system, the apparatus comprising:
a processor; and
a display including
a first display portion produced by the processor, the first display portion including a plurality of control boxes each corresponding to and controlling one track, wherein the plurality of control boxes corresponding to the plurality of tracks of a first audio processing module may be collapsed into a single control box corresponding to

and controlling simultaneously all of the plurality of tracks
corresponding to the first audio processing module, and
a second display portion produced by the processor, the second
display portion including a central control mechanism to
substantially simultaneously control all of the plurality of tracks of
the plurality of audio processing modules.

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11. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a
selection device to select one of the control boxes corresponding to
one of the plurality of tracks of the plurality of audio processing
modules.

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12. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the selection device is a
keyboard.

13. The apparatus of claim 11 wherein the selection device is a mouse.

14. (Amended) The apparatus of claim 11 further comprising an I/O
device to transmit a control command associated with the one of
the control boxes selected by the selection device to an audio
processing module having a corresponding I/O channel of a
plurality of I/O channels.

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15. The apparatus of claim 14 wherein an audio processing module
receives the control command and performs a function assigned to
the control command.

16. The apparatus of claim 10 further comprising a selection device to select the central control mechanism.

17. The apparatus of claim 16 further comprising an I/O device to transmit a global control command associated with the central control mechanism to the plurality of audio processing modules.

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18. (Twice Amended) The apparatus of claim 17 wherein each of the plurality of audio processing modules receive the global control command and perform a function assigned to the control command with respect to all of its corresponding plurality of I/O channels.

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20. (Amended) In a player/ recorder system having a plurality of embedded boxes (EBXs) each corresponding with a plurality of tracks and each connected to a computer system having a processor and a display, a graphical user interface method of centrally controlling the plurality of tracks of the plurality of EBXs, the method comprising:

generating a first display portion on the display by the processor, the first display portion including one or more control boxes and one or more EBX control boxes, wherein the one or more control boxes correspond to and control a single track of the plurality of tracks and each EBX control box of the one or more EBX control

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boxes corresponds to and controls all of the plurality of tracks associated with its corresponding EBX of the plurality of EBXs; and generating a second display portion on the display by the processor, the second display portion including a central control mechanism for simultaneously controlling all of the tracks.

21. (Amended) The method of claim 20, wherein the control boxes corresponding to the plurality of tracks of a first EBX may be collapsed into the EBX control box that corresponds to and controls all of the plurality of tracks associated with the first EBX.